

**RACE EQUITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE
SPECIAL MEETING MEETING MINUTES
NOVEMBER 17, 2022**

CALL TO ORDER

Present:

REAC members: Renni Bispham, Jing Fong, Olivia Hall, Frank Jacobson, Savanna Rovelstad, Clarissa San Diego, Eric Stahl

Liaison: Clarence Moriwaki

Excused: Clarissa San Diego and Peggi Erickson. Peggi and liaison Brenda Fantroy-Johnson were attending the Race Forward “Facing Race” Conference in Phoenix.

Conflict of interest: None

Public Comment: None

MOTION: I move to approve the November 17, 2022 agenda as amended.

Jing/Olivia: The motion carried unanimously 6-0

MINUTES

Special meeting was with Bremerton REAC to have a conversation about our respective challenges, successes, and future plans. We had a candid and engaging discussion with Bremerton REAC members Airen Lydick and Darryl Riley.

Bremerton REAC

- Has new members who are experienced in community work and race equity analysis and ready to hold government accountable.
- Reminding the city that REAC exists to advise on systemic racism, not just conducting cultural events.
- Staff support has been positive. They get excited about the potential.
- We struggle with the task of advising people in power who don’t like sharing power or being told what to do. We want to make sure codification of our work means real advice and analysis, not just a rubber stamp.
- We feel as if we’re not being watered and left to die.
- REAC members Glenna and Airen are consulting with GARE for race equity advisory body and officer descriptions.
- Bremerton REAC has an allyship group network of community members that is built on relationships and trust. When ***** happens, they can rally immediately.
- At the March 8, 2022 forum*, information and perspectives gathered from in-depth interviews were presented. In a talking circle, elected officials heard about what the community wants. The circle was important because it was community, not individuals. The information wouldn’t have looked the same if it came from surveys. It was more real, blunter.

*A recording is available.

Bainbridge REAC:

- Sometimes, things don’t happen as quickly as we want but we’re building momentum working with the City.
- The City and its departments have been calling on us more (from the beginning) to provide feedback applying a race equity lens. We have provided advice and recommendations on the Zero Emissions, Housing Action, and Winslow Subarea plans.
- One of the things we’re focusing on is building relationships. Our co-chairs finished listening sessions with individual city council members. One of the findings is that they are all open to doing equity training with REAC.

- We're also conducting listening sessions to build relationships and a standing network of BIPOC community leaders. We currently have a loose idea on BIPOC leaders to talk to about issues and concerns. When the City comes to us, we want to be able to actually connect them with that community.

ADJOURNMENT APPROX. 7:30 PM

Savanna Rovelstad
Co-Chair

12/1/2022
Date